

## Message Text

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TAGS: EGEN, CA, US

SUBJ: PRESS INTERVIEW WITH TREASURY SECRETARY SIMON

FINANCIAL TIMES AND OTHER SOUTHAM-AFFILIATED  
NEWSPAPERS HAVE CARRIED EXTENSIVE REPORTS OF TREASURY  
SECRETARY SIMON'S INTERVIEW WITH WASHINGTON  
CORRESPONDENT BOGDAN KIPLING UNDER HEADLINES  
EMPHASIZING SIMON'S INTEREST IN CLOSER COLLABORATION  
AND MORE DIALOGUE WITH CANADA. FOLLWING IS TEXT  
OF EDITORIAL IN JUNE 30 ISSUE OF FINANCIAL TIMES  
UNDER TITLE "COOLER HEADS" WHICH, WITH SIMON/KIPLING  
INTERVIEW AS POINT OF DEPARTURE, SUGGESTS THAT ITS  
TIME CANADIAN POLITICIANS STOPPED "SHOUTING" AT U.S.  
IN ORDER TO PROVE THEIR CANADIANISM.

BEGIN VERBATIM TEXT. THE U.S. SECRETARY OF  
THE TREASURY RANKS HIGH AMONG THE NON-CANADIANS WHO CAN  
HAVE A LARGE EFFECT ON THE CANADIAN ECONOMY. AN  
AMERICAN PRESIDENT WHO CHOSE TO INTERVENE IN SUCH  
MATTERS WOULD, OF COURSE, OUTRANK HIM. BUT TO GAUGE  
THE HELPFUL OR DISRUPTIVE POTENTIAL OF A SECRETARY  
OF THE TREASURY, IT IS ONLY NECESSARY TO CAST ONE'S  
MIND BACK TO JOHN CONNALLY'S ACTIVE HOSTILITY TOWARD  
CANADA.

THE ATTITUDE WILLIAM SIMON REVEALS IN HIS  
INTERVIEW WITH BOGDAN KIPLING, OUR WASHINGTON  
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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 02484 031707Z

CORRESPONDENT, IS IN SHARP CONTRAST TO MR. CONNALLY'S

APPROACH. MR. SIMON IS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT RELATIONS  
BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND UNDERSTANDING ABOUT  
CANADA'S NEED TO ASSERT ITS OWN NATIONAL INTERESTS.

WHEN THE INTERESTS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES ARE AT  
VARIANCE, WE MUST EXPECT HIM TO ARGUE THE CASE FOR  
HIS OWN COUNTRY. BUT WE ARE LIKELY TO FIND MORE  
COMMON GROUND IF THE NATIONAL INTERESTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES  
ARE UNDERSTOOD AND RESPECTED ON BOTH SIDES OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL BORDER THAN IF WE CONDUCT OUR RELATIONS  
BY UNILATERAL ACTION AND SHOUTING AT EACH OTHER.

OF COURSE, THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN THE TWO  
COUNTRIES MAKES FOR MORE SHOUTING IN CANADA THAN IN  
THE U.S. SOMETIMES, AND IN SOME PARTS OF THE U.S.,  
THERE ARE POLITICAL POINTS TO BE GAINED BY CURSING  
THE CANADIANS. BUT MORE USUALLY, AND AT A NATIONAL  
LEVEL, AMERICAN POLITICIANS ARE NOT UNDER GREAT  
TEMPTATION TO BE ANTI-CANADIAN. THE TEMPTATION  
IS MUCH STRONGER IN CANADA AND RUNS UP TO THE HIGHEST  
LEVELS OF POLITICS.

"QUITE DIPLOMACY" HAS FALLEND INTO DISREPUTE  
HERE. SOMETIMES IT SEEMS THAT A POLITICAN CAN  
ONLY PROVE HIS CANADIANISM IF HE SHOUTS AND POUNDS  
THE DESK OF HIS AMERICAN COUNTERPART. THIS WEEK --  
WHEN BOTH OUR COUNTRIES CELEBRATE THE ANNIVERSARIES  
OF THEIR FOUNDING -- IS AS GOOD A TIME AS ANY  
TO START CHANGING THAT ATTITUDE. MR. SIMON SEEMS TO  
BE SAYING THAT THE AMERICANS WILL MEET US HALF-WAY.  
END VERBATIM TEXT. JOHNSON

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